

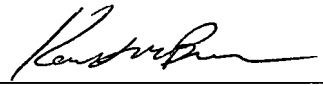
submitted for publication to the ACM SIGCOMM 2003 Conference prior to the publication date of *Clavister* (i.e., June 4, 2003). (ACM SIGCOMM is the Association for Computing Machinery's Special Interest Group on Data Communication.) The Declaration also includes Exhibits which evidence that such submission to ACM SIGCOMM was made prior to the publication date of *Clavister*. In particular, the Declaration states that the instant invention was conceived and reduced to practice prior to June 4, 2003, the publication date of *Clavister*, and provides sufficient evidence of this fact by reference to the Paper and the supporting documents attached thereto.

Specifically, therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that the *Clavister* reference has been antedated by the Declaration and thus is no longer admissible prior art to the instant invention. Thus, Applicants traverse all of the outstanding rejections of the instant claims, and respectfully submit that the instant application is in condition for allowance.

Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested in light of this submission. The Examiner is invited to telephone Applicant's attorney, Kenneth M. Brown, at (908) 582 – 5998, should there be any questions or issues for discussion in the reconsideration of the pending application.

Respectfully,

Dong Lin

By   
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